

WAYLAND RURAL DISTRICT.

REPORT

For the Year ending December 31st, 1914,

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Density of Population—1 person to 4.7 acres.			
Area in acres	....	....	68,774.
Population (Census, 1911)	....		14,427.

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council,

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my report on the sanitary state of the District for the year 1914. I have been out on service since the mobilization of the Territorial Force on August 4th ; in consequence I am unable to render as full a report as in previous years. During my absence, the work has been ably done by my deputy, I trust to the satisfaction of the Council.

A. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

- WATER
SUPPLY.

This is entirely from shallow wells. “Certificates” were granted for six new wells. Two wells were cleaned and repaired, and the water supply improved. Steps were taken in several instances to remove collections of refuse from the neighbourhood of wells as being possible sources of contamination of the water supply.
- RIVERS AND
STREAMS.

I have drawn attention on several occasions to the pollution of the stream into which a sewer drain from Attleborough runs ; complaints, especially from Hargham, were received last year as in previous years about the condition of the stream. Nothing has been done to abate this continued nuisance.
- DRAINAGE
AND
SEWERAGE.

The question of the discharge of the sewer drain from Station Road, Attleborough, into the stream, to which reference has just been made, requires urgent attention. With regard to closet accommodation, much good work has been done, through the vigilance of the Inspector of Nuisances, in improving and altering insanitary privies : 44 existing privies were converted to the pail system and 75 were repaired. Six W.C.’s were constructed for new houses.
- FOOD.

No action has been necessary on account of unsound food. Under the Dairies, Cow-sheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885, all the premises have been inspected, the general condition being fair. The total number on the register is 20.
- HOUSING.

The inspection of houses, in accordance with Article V. of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, has been systematically made by the Inspector of Nuisances. Much progress has been made in this work in the parishes of Rockland St. Peter, Rockland All Saints, Great and Little Ellingham, Wilby, Eccles, Old and New Buckenham. The result is shewn in tabular form as follows :

Number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purpose of Section 17 of the							
Act of 1909	...	...	...	...	...	...	890
Number of dwelling-houses which, on inspection, were considered to be in a state so							
dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...						54

Number of representations made to the local authority with a view to the making of closing orders	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Number of closing orders made	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Number of dwelling-houses, the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Number of dwelling-houses which, after the making of closing orders, were put in a fit state for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

Six houses, for which closing orders would have been made, were closed voluntarily ; 18 other houses about which representations were made, are being repaired ; 3 remain unfit for habitation. The general character of the defects found was as usual : dampness and insufficient light and ventilation. There were 8 cases of overcrowding found at Rockland St. Peter, Old Buckenham and New Buckenham ; these were abated.

In my report last year, I dealt somewhat fully on the question of the urgent need of better cottages, especially in three parishes. Your Council did not see fit to take any action. During the latter part of 1913, as noted in my report, a Local Government Inspector paid a visit to this district. Early in this year, a letter was received from the Board in which it was stated that the Inspector reported that throughout the district there was a lack of suitable dwellings for the working classes ; that there were many cottages which could not be considered satisfactory from a structural or sanitary point of view ; that others lacked the necessary accommodation for the ordinary standards of decency and comfort to be observed. “ The Board must request the Council to give these unsatisfactory conditions their immediate and serious attention.” “ In these circumstances the Board think that in order to enable the Council to deal adequately with the unsatisfactory housing conditions which exist, they should provide further houses in their district under Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.” The Board further recommended that a start should be made with housing schemes for the parishes of Attleborough, Carbrooke, and Hockham.

In consequence of this letter, your Council appointed a Housing Committee, but the serious events of the last six months of the year, have prevented adequate consideration of the subject which no doubt in happier times will receive attention on the lines advised by the Board.

WORKSHOPS. The Factories and Workshops Act has been administered throughout the district. There were 70 workshops and 2 factories on the register.

B. PREVALENCE OF ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

I. Notifiable Disease.

There were 60 notifications received, rather more than last year.

SCARLET FEVER. There were 40 cases of this disease, but no deaths due to it were recorded. In January and February there were 14 cases in Attleborough and district, several being contacts with cases notified at the end of the previous year. During the last six weeks of this year, there was an epidemic in the adjoining parishes of Eccles, Wilby, and Roudham, 21 cases being notified, of which 7 were in one house and 4 in each of two others, and some single cases. It is easy to see that effective isolation of the first case is impossible in a small cottage inhabited by a large family.

DIPHThERIA. There were 5 notifications, all being single cases at different times of the year. Two were imported into the district, in each instance the patient coming home ill, the disease developing shortly after arrival. There were no deaths.

TYPHOID FEVER. There were 2 notifications. One was that of a soldier who arrived at his home in this district from Ireland, the disease being diagnosed very shortly after. He subsequently died. I had some correspondence with the military authorities notifying them of the nature of the man’s illness, but there was no evidence as to how he contracted the disease. There was one other case : in this also the source of infection was not traceable. It is some years since there were any notification of Typhoid Fever in this district.

ERYSIPELAS. There were three cases.

PUERPERAL One case was notified which terminated fatally. The bedding was destroyed and the
FEVER. room disinfected. In this same house, three years ago, the first wife of the occupier also died
of this disease.

II. Non-Notifiable Diseases.

MEASLES. This disease was again very prevalent, two deaths of children under two years of age
were attributed to it.

WHOOPIG There were epidemics in several villages. There was one death caused by it. I do not
COUGH. think the seriousness of this illness is yet properly realized by many parents who fail
frequently to take any precautions to prevent other children from being infected.

CANCER. Malignant disease appears to be on the increase, though this may partly be due to more
accurate diagnosis. There were 21 deaths attributed to it, 12 of persons over 65 years of age
and 8 between the ages of 45 and 65.

C. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 9 notifications as against 21 last year, of which 7 were of the Pulmonary type
against 18 last year. There were 11 deaths, 7 due to the Pulmonary form, and 4 to other
Tuberculous disease. There is, I think, no doubt that the disease is decreasing ; the County
Medical Officer states that “ the natural conditions in Norfolk are not favourable to the de-
velopment of Tuberculosis.” Domiciliary treatment, shelter, medical attendance have been
granted under the National Health Insurance Act, and 5 cases were admitted to the Kelling
Sanatorium.

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were 17 deaths of infants registered in the district, only two more than last year,
but the rate per 1000 births rises from 56.6 to 66 owing to the fall in the number of births.
To Premature Birth and Congenital Malformations are ascribed 7 deaths, all in the first week
of life ; to Measles, Whooping Cough, Tuberculous Meningitis, and Enteritis, one each, the
remaining deaths being due to various other causes. It is satisfactory to note that the infant
mortality is not great in this district.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS. The number of births was 257, even lower than last year which was the lowest recorded
in this district. The birth-rate per 1000 of population falls to 17.8. This figure does not
compare favourably with that for Norfolk which was 20.95, still less with that for Rural
England as a whole which was 22.3 in the year 1913.

DEATHS. The number of deaths registered in the district was 186 to which have to be added the
transferable deaths, making the total number 196, the highest recorded in this district. The
death-rate is 13.5. The chief causes of death were Heart Disease, 26 ; Cancer, 21 ; Tuber-
culous Diseases, 11.

I append the Statistical Tables.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. F. ROSE.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

WAYLAND RURAL DISTRICT.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths. Of Non-Residents Registered in the District. Of Residents not Registered in the District.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.						Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Num-ber.	Rate.	Num-ber.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.		
1909	13793	314	...	22.7	179	12.9	5	...	20	63.6	174	12.6
1910	...	270	...	19.6	173	12.5	4	...	28	103.7	169	12
1911	14427	305	...	21	176	12	7	10	31	101.6	179	12.4
1912	...	290	290	20	178	12.4	4	9	16	55	183	12.5
1913	...	265	266	18.3	160	11	4	10	15	56.6	166	11.5
1914	14427	256	257	17.8	186	12	3	13	17	66	196	13.5

Area of District in acres
(exclusive of area covered by water) } 68,774.

Total Population at all ages—14427.
Number of Inhabited Houses—3,406.
Average number of persons per house—4.

} At Census of 1911.

I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Eastern Counties Inebriate Reformatory, Kenninghall.		New Infirmary, Attleborough. Cottage Hospital, Watton.
Is the Union Workhouse within the District ? Yes.		

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.

WAYLAND RURAL DISTRICT.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.							
	At all Ages.	At Ages--Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Small Pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera, Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	5	...	1	1	1	2	...	...
Erysipelas	3	..	...	...	...	...	3	...
Scarlet Fever	40	...	...	38	2	...	...	...
Typhus Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever, Continued Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	7	...	...	...	2	4	1	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	60	...	3	39	7	7	4	...

Isolation Hospital—None.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914.

WAYLAND RURAL DISTRICT

CAUSE OF DEATH.				Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
				All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.		65 and upwards.
All Causes	{	Certified
		Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	12
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Organic Heart Disease	...	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	17
Bronchitis	...	...	8	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	5
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	7	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	3
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Puerperal Fever	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	...	...	10	8	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other defined Diseases	...	...	50	...	...	...	1	1	3	10	35
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	...	...	38	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	32
Totals	...	...	196	17	5	3	1	4	17	40	109
											16	

WAYLAND RURAL DISTRICT.

Infant Mortality during the Year 1914.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All Causes—Certified. Uncertified.										
Small Pox
Chicken Pox
Measles	1	...	1
Scarlet Fever
Whooping Cough	1	...	...	1
Diphtheria and Croup
Erysipelas
Tuberculous Meningitis	1	...	...	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis
Other Tuberculous Diseases
Meningitis
Convulsions
Laryngitis
Bronchitis	1	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms)
Diarrhœa	1	...	1
Enteritis	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Gastritis
Syphilis
Rickets
Suffocation, overlying
Injury at birth
Atelectasis
Congenital Malformations	2	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	3
Premature birth	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	4
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Other Causes	1	1	...	1	1	...	3
Totals	7	...	...	3	10	1	3	3	...	17

Nett Births in the year

{ legitimate—240.
illegitimate—17.

Nett Deaths in the year of

{ legitimate infants—16.
illegitimate infants—1.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1914,

FOR THE

RURAL DISTRICT OF WAYLAND,

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901,

IN CONNECTION WITH

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries) ...	...	...	...
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	51	6	...
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	...	...	...
Total	51	6	...

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, and WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of cleanliness	14	14	...	...
Want of ventilation ... ..	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other Nuisances ... ..	...	...	...	...
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient ...	...	...	...
	unsuitable or defective ...	...	...	...
	not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	...	...	...	...
Total	14	14	...	...

3.—HOMEWORK. Nil.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Cider factories	2
Bakehouses	24
Other Workshops	44
Total Number of workshops on Register ...	70

OTHER MATTERS. *Nil.*

ABSTRACT OF SANITARY WORK,

For the Year 1914.

Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	840
„ placed in habitable repair	...	...	...	...	...	200
„ closed	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ erected or re-built	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bakehouses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	26
Dairies and Milkshops inspected	...	...	...	...	...	15
Cowsheds inspected	...	...	...	...	...	15
Workshops „	...	...	...	..	...	5
Slaughter-houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	13
Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	13
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	10
Wells sunk	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water certificates granted	...	...	...	...	...	6
Houses connected with sewers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Earth, pail, or improved privies constructed	...	...	...	...	...	60
Privies and W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Cisterns cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	...	...	7
Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding	...	...	...	...	...	1

WAYLAND
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the Year 1914.

E. F. ROSE,
M.O.H.